

FOUR CUBED

The Newsletter of EightSquaredCon, the 2013 Eastercon Issue 1: Friday PM
Email: newsletter@eightsquaredcon.org Twitter: #Eastercon or 8SqCon



When I'm Sixty Four

Welcome to EightSquaredCon! This is the con newsletter, FourCubed, which should be your go-to-source for up-to-the-minute convention news throughout the weekend. Well, up-to-the-day news at any rate. We'll do at least one issue every day.

There are lots of different ways to get stuff into the newsletter. Drop stories off with us (we're in Pine on the 2nd floor) or at Ops, email us at newsletter@eightsquaredcon.org, or do anything seriously embarrassing while there's someone around with a camera.

We'd particularly like to hear from you if you're running an awesome program item this weekend—plug it! If you've been to an awesome programme item or restaurant—review it!

Induction Reduction

We're sorry, but the induction loop is not currently working. A gopher has been sent to look for a very special cable.

Programme Changes

The Programme Guide went to press while we were still finalising the programme, and since then we've made some changes to who's on which item. Here are the changes for Friday and Saturday:

- Head to Head: E Nesbit and C S Lewis (Friday 8pm): add Sarah Ash and Bridget Wilkinson.
- Underground London (Friday 9pm): add Mike Shevdon.
- Genre Get-together (Saturday 11am): add Jaime Fenn.
- Reinventing Urban Fantasy (Saturday 1pm): add CE Murphy.
- The Best Books of 2012 (Saturday 7pm): add Paul Cockburn.

- Genre Get-together (Saturday 7pm): Remove Jaime Fenn.
- Steampunk Morality and Victorian Values (Saturday 7pm): Remove David Barnett, add Fiona Anderson and Chris Butler. (Also, it's Liesel Schwarz, not Schwartz – our apologies.)

Michael Abbott

Times and Places

The Dealers' Room (at the northeastern end of the ground floor) opens 10am each morning and closes at 6pm, except for Monday, when it closes at 3pm. They welcome everyone and their wallets.

The Art Show (on the 2nd floor, at the east end) is open until 8pm Friday, 9am to 9pm Saturday, and then only 9am-11am on Sunday; please make sure you make time to come and enjoy looking around before it's too late. Get a bidder number from the desk; it's not your con number.

Volunteer Call

Eastercon runs entirely on volunteer labour; every part of the convention is put together and staffed by volunteers. Volunteering is also great fun, and you can get involved this weekend. We need gophers, who do all sorts of odd jobs—go to ops. Tech also need volunteers, and offer free Snickers. And if anyone fancies helping out on a newsletter, come and find us. You could be a cub reporter!

Access All Areas

Green Room volunteers are buying drinks for panelists, and should therefore be allowed to take priority at the bars. Please don't be grumpy, and allow them to cheerfully go ahead and smooth your programme participants' throats. Thank you!

Austin Benson

How to get on WiFi

Get a login sheet from hotel reception—each has two logins on it, for your phone and computer, each of which is good for 24 hours. On your device, choose the network 'swisscom'; then from your web browser you can log in. You'll need to keep the window open (laptop) or save a bookmark (phone/tablet) to stay logged in. Having said that, we appear to be trying to set a record for 'most people logged on to one hotel Swisscom server at once'. It's the modern equivalent of cramming people into a phone box.

Opening Ceremony Review

Hey! There's a con. It's happening.



50 Schedules of Grey

If you have a smartphone, point it at <http://8squared2013.sched.org> for the online version of the programme. It's searchable, and will be kept up to date over the weekend.

Random Plug #1

A major highlight of Saturday morning comes when Lee Hanson of the JB Priestley Society tells us that Bradford turns out to have been good for something other than curry. Come along and learn about Bradford's most famous science fictional son.

Parents Please Note

The creche is in room G12.

Restaurant Reviews

Akbars Indian Cuisine: 1276 Leeds Road BD3 8LF, 01274 773311— Not so nearby restaurant (taxi), quite good, although noisy. It probably helps to make a reservation in advance, although they managed to seat six of us within 15 minutes anyway. All we tried (Balti dishes) were great, including the nut and fruit nans.

Jan van't Ent

Hanq's Diner is next to the petrol station opposite the Cedar Court Hotel. As its name suggests, this an American style diner with steaks and hamburgers being the main fare. The cheeseburger was very tasty, if slightly underdone, and it came with real chips, not American fries. For those who like to start the day with pancakes or waffles, it also does American style breakfasts.

Steve Rogerson

Last night was good. We went for a lovely meal at **Aakash**, which claims to be the biggest Indian restaurant in England, if not the world. The buffet was great and catered for everyone. It's popular so make reservations.

Julie McMurray

I am absolutely not recommending the **Sparrow Bier Cafe** on the North Parade (an easy stroll from the Midland Hotel). Amongst the dozen interesting keg and cask beers they are currently serving one of my favourites and I don't want you lot coming along to drink it all!

Helen Cross

ToDo List #1

Unless you've been under a rock you'll know that next year's World SF Convention will be in London. So excited! At any rate, if you've been waiting to upgrade your Loncon3 friend or pre-supporting membership, now is the time. Come see the Loncon3 table this weekend to get your full attending membership at rock bottom rate. An installment plan is available for the brassic, and the rates will rise after May 1st. See you in London next August!

Random Plug #2

We're currently enjoying the sound check for Zulu Tradition, from 8pm till 10pm in Main. Songs, dance and drums from Zulu cultural heritage. Here's a pic to whet your appetite:



I Will Walk Ten Thousand Miles

Well, not necessarily this weekend. But if you're wearing a pedometer this weekend, let us know your stepcounts; we'll print the highest for bragging rights.

Slight Technical Inaccuracies #1

In the Useful Information booklet, all the function/programme rooms that are described as being on the First Floor are in fact on the Second Floor.

Chris O'Shea

Wedding Bells

Well, we were all gobsmacked to hear of Chris Bell & Roger Burton-West's nuptials. Congratulations to the happy couple, and also photographic evidence:



What do you call...?

Farah Mendlesohn asked us to let you all know that her hearing loss has worsened and she's now legally deaf. That means that if you want her to hear what you're saying, she needs to see your face. In general, do remember that people around the con may have invisible disabilities, and act accordingly.

Random Plug #3

Come along to the TAFF Q&A tonight at 8pm. Tag your questions with #askTAFF and they'll be read out. [What's wrong with putting up your hand? —Ed]

Satellite of Love

Progress Report 2 for Eastercon next year is now available for you to collect. Also there might be an albatross.

Cash In

The nearest cashpoint with free withdrawals is located at the Shell garage across the roundabout.

Directions on foot: leave the hotel car park and follow the pavement on the right until you reach the pedestrian crossing. The garage is the other side of the road; a slow 6 minute walk.

In the Swim

We all know that you should make sure your regular congoing day includes thirty minutes of your favourite vigorous exercise. But if that's not an option, the Health Club opening times will be:

Friday/Monday 9am - 7pm (kids 10-6)
Saturday 8am - 8pm (kids 9-7)
Sunday 8am - 8pm (kids 9-6)
Monday 9am - 7pm (kids 10-6)

Lost

Ivy green rucksack with multicoloured pocket and Pikachu and skull badges attached. If found please take to Ops (Sycamore room on 2nd floor).

Code of Conduct Update

If you wish to avoid giving offense at this convention, please do not leave women in Liam's hotel room.

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Fabulous Programme Items!

As well as the JB Priestly lecture at 11am in Rowan, Saturday's daytime programme includes items with two of our Guests of Honour.

At 2pm in Main, Anne Sudworth talks about her wonderful art and, at 3:30pm in Main, Freda Warrington will be interviewed by Anne Wilson about her wide-ranging and varied works of fiction.

Beeblebears' Picnic

The Beeblebears will be meeting at 12pm on Saturday in the Cedar Foyer Bar, to tell their tales and give you all a big surprise!

John Stewart

Following John's perambulation through the hotel lobby waving from an ambulance trolley early on Friday morning, we would like to let you know that he is currently in Leeds General Infirmary, recovering from a "quickly diagnosed" mild heart attack. The treatment was swift and very successful: within an hour of returning to the ward, he was tucking into a ham salad and talking tech. He should be discharged in the next few days, and may make it back to the con before tear-down.

John and Barbara thank you for all your good wishes and the help from the Committee, and would particularly like to thank the first-aider from the health club for his support and assistance. Plus, Yorkshire Ambulance Service is really great.

—Barbara Stewart

Peter Wareham and Gwen Funnell both have Get Well Soon cards for John, and would appreciate it if you could sign them before the end of the con.

Zulu Tradition

"Is that distant thunder I hear?"
"No, dear, it's just the Zulus."
"Oh, that's alright then."

—Fran Dowd

Zulu Tradition seemed like a strange choice for an Eastercon but turned out to be an amazing one. Zulu Tradition's cast of six are from South Africa, and they perform the dances, songs and drumming of tribal warriors. The original purpose was to motivate fighters before battle but also practise working together.

I have seen English Morris dancers—who also wave big sticks whilst dancing—but these guys and gal can really *sing*.

Their signature moves included kicking the air above their heads and jumping into the air and landing flat on their bottoms. Now that is hard.

I was pleased to hear one song about 'Ubuntu' which of course is not just a flavour of Linux, but also a philosophy about humanity.

—Alex McLintock



Spot your intrepid editrix-in-chief!



The BSFA Wants Your Ears

Dr Louise Livesey (Ruskin College Oxford) will present the fifth BSFA Lecture on Saturday at 5pm in Main Programme. The title is *A Highly Political Act: speech, silence, hearing and sexual violence*, a subject that should be of interest to many of the people attending Eastercon. Louise is a Tutor in Sociology and Women's Studies, and has been an academic and activist in the field of women's studies for over a decade now. Louise is a passionate communicator, as those of us who follow her on social media will know. She's been doing some serious research for this lecture, and there will be plenty of time for discussion after the lecture, which should last about 35 minutes. Hope to see people there.

—Tony Keen

Eurocon 2013

Find out more about the 2013 Eurocon, to be held in Kiev in two weeks' time, by coming along to hear Dave Lally give a briefing in Hawthorn on Saturday at 10pm.

Kids' Art Show

Art Show has stuff to create art with for the under-16 crowd. Everyone's work will be displayed and prizes will be awarded for the best three pieces.

—The Art Show

Top Tips

When deciding which Shakespeare play to discuss during your answer on *Just A Minute*, don't pick *Measure For Measure*....

A Job For The Fan Fic Team

Having seen it mentioned on Twitter, we're eagerly awaiting the Noggin the Nog/Buffy crossover series.

The BSFA Wants Your Money

At least a dozen members of EightSquaredCon are in arrears with their BSFA membership subscriptions. If you think that you may be one of them, please come to the BSFA table in the Dealers' Room and find out. If you want to renew your subscription at Eastercon, we'll take cheque or cash, or you can pay online later.

PS: If you are not currently a BSFA member, we are also taking new memberships on the table!

—The BSFA

Will You Still Need Me...?

Statistically, some of the people at this convention will be 64 this year. Do you know who they are? Please let the newsletter office know, so that we can embarrass them as they deserve!

Dutch Arctic Toner-Mining Team Arrived

Spotted in the upstairs lounge, under an alternating warm and cold streaming aircon, intrepid Dutch con time travellers Van der Putte and Boekestein were commiserating about the cold inside and out. Warning note after this morning's expedition: do not try a walk around the hotel with a busted ankle. There is a nice straight slide down just west of the hotel, with a walkable incline back to the northeast though.

—Jan van't Ent



The Fannish Way To Exercise

1. Walk over to Pine to say hello to the Newsletter Crew.
2. Walk to the Boardroom programme room.

Congratulations! You've just gone up one floor without climbing any stairs, thanks to the miracle of Radissonian architectural topography!

Pub Crawl Report

The eight courageous souls who braved the cold on Thursday night for the pre-con pub crawl discovered that beer prices in town are much cheaper than at the hotel. We started at the excellent *Fighting Cock* on Preston Street, a street corner pub a little out of the way, but well worth the hunt as it serves a wide range of real ales and bottled beers. The next stop was the *New Beehive Inn* on Westgate. The ten hand pumps are a little misleading as only three real ales were available. It was a quiet pub that we shared with just two locals.

The crawl finished at *Haigy's Ale House*: given that it was cold outside and the pub stays open until 1am, we decided to stay there. A good range of ales and a pleasant atmosphere also aided our decision to remain.

—Steve Rogerson

Bloody Immigrants, Coming Over Here, Taking Our Jobs

Confact is a type-it-yourself convention newsletter that comes over from the mainland, where it's a landmark, especially at German conventions. Sitting down and typing a few lines at the ancient, typewriter-style portable computer gives you a bit of the old fan-ed experience. The first issue at an Eastercon is expected to be finished soon, after which it will be printed and can be picked up at Ecki's table in the Foyer (first table on the left when you enter). Go try it, type a few lines on your convention experience and help the team to finish yet another issue.

—Jan van't Ent

Decorating Tips

If you're finding that your delicate, gauzy curtains are not only beautiful but also completely incapable of reducing the amount of early-morning sunlight streaming into your room, do not despair!

The largely pointless rug-like thing on the bottom of your bed is just the right height and width to hang over the curtain rail and let you get a little more sleep!

Free Stuff

Don't forget that the Conservatory is the place to find free books that have kindly been donated by publishers supporting Eastercons. Details of the genre get-togethers are in the programme.

Restaurant Reviews

My Thai, 200 Keighley Road (closed Sundays)

Wonderful food and great service in quiet surroundings. We had the Bangkok Banquet for £20 per person, which was excellent value, and I would particularly recommend dishes 62 (Volcanic Duck) and 43 (Penang Beef).

—Anon

Akbar's Indian Restaurant, 1276 Leeds Rd

The food here is amazing. Each dish can feed almost two people. The Nan bread could feed an army. You need to book in advance and there is a car park. It was very popular indeed.

—Julie Rigby

Sheeshmahal, 6 St Thomas Road

Another fine restaurant, apparently frequented by Bradford taxi drivers, and you do need a taxi, as it's on the other side of the city centre, although not too far from Jurys Hotel. Fairly quiet business (compared to other Indian restaurants) with great food - we tried the Biryani and Dopiaza from the favourites list (the last from the Mughal Empire days). Note it's unlicensed, but a nice jug of salted lassi went down well with the meal.

—Jan van't Ent

Toner Sniffers

As Yr Hmbl Ed began preparations for this newsletter, the Chief Printer Wrangler was deep in the paper mines, hand-crafting Issue 1. Minutes after the first, delicate scent of toner started to waft down the corridors, a steady stream of northern-European fans began to arrive, begging for the latest issue. Do the snowy wastes improve the sensitivity of their noses, or is it the genetically advantageous ability to seek out the printer-fresh sheets of paper that provide vital warmth in the dark winter months?

This issue was produced by Flick, with help from Alison Scott, Mike Scott and Jan van't Ent. Masthead by Sue Mason. Mike's ex- and current wives would like to express their appreciation of his awesome dongle. We're following #Eastercon and #8SqCon on Twitter and Flickr. We would like to apologise for the previous issue.

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More Programme Changes

Issue 1 contained the changes to the programme for Friday and Saturday; here are the changes for Sunday and Monday.

- Maiden, Mother, Who? Older Women in Genre Fiction (Sunday 10am): replace Fran Dowd with Caroline Mullan.
- Fast Fact Talks: Ideas To Go (Sunday 11am): our Sunday Fast Facters are Tracy Berg (talking about 'Making Things Glow'), Malcolm Davies ('Why Hobbits Are Evil') and Smuzz ('Writing SF Comics For Younger Children').
- Alan Garner (Sunday noon): add Jacey Bedford.
- Cityscapes (Sunday 1pm): add Jacey Bedford.
- Head to Head: Bram Stoker and Mary Shelley (Sunday 1pm): remove David Barnett, add John Lenahan and Sara Townsend.
- The Brothers Grimm (Sunday 6pm): remove Tiffani Angus.
- Head to Head: H P Lovecraft and Robert E Howard (Sunday 6pm): remove Sara Townsend, add Sarah Newton.
- Sex in Young Adult Literature (Sunday 8pm): it's 'Peadar O'Guilin', not 'Peadar'. Our apologies.
- Extreme Rewrites (Sunday 9pm): with Bob Neilson, Jennifer Delaney, Sharon Reamer and Ira Nayman.
- Gerry Anderson (Monday 10am): remove Stephen Baxter.
- Geeks in the Media (Monday 10am): with DougS, Tracy Berg, Anna Feruglio Dal Dan, Phil Dyson and Pat McMurray.
- Fast Fact Talks: Ideas To Go (Monday 11am): our Monday Fast Facters are cDave (telling us why 'Comics Are Not Just For Children'),

Emma England ('When is Fiction Fanfiction? (Fem)Slashing the Bible' – there is a parental advisory on this talk) and Caro Wilson ('Making Mice').

- Head to Head: Arthur C Clarke and John Brunner (Monday 11am): add Fiona Anderson and Ian Whates.
- Eastercons: More Regenerations Than a Time Lord (Monday 2pm): add Sue Mason and Ian McKenna.
- Beer, (Some) Beards and Duplicators (Monday 3pm): in addition to Edward James, this panel has Caroline Mullan, Mark Plummer and Alison Scott.

Michael Abbott

Advice For Young Dragons

Please do not smoke directly outside the hotel. Please use the smoking shelter which is just to the right of the hotel entrance.

Why Is The Future Drawn So White?

This programme item will be talking about the whitewashing of ethnic characters in art and media, and how to fight this tendency. 11am in Rowan.

Tech Troubles

Tech wishes to apologise for the sounds of sniper fire that came from the Non-Western SF and Fantasy panel. The culprit has been located and the offending microphone has been taken out and shot.

The induction loop is now working in the hotel. It's at the front of the front-left section of the seats in the main programme hall.

Beer! Beer! Beer!

Jo Fletcher Books and Quercus invite you to the conservatory to meet their authors and chat about books at 7pm on Sunday. They would like to make it very clear that they'd like to buy you a drink.

Who's For Food?

There won't be a break in the serving of con food this afternoon; instead of stopping between lunch and dinner they'll serve straight through.

This is because the hotel expects there to be a **rush on food** after *Doctor Who*, so they're making it easier for you to have your evening meal before the show. And if you're not interested in *Doctor Who*, why not eat dinner between 6pm and 7pm?

Remember that the hotel is also serving its regular bar menu throughout the convention in the main bar. If you do find that the eateries are oversubscribed, we have restaurant reviews over the page.

The Mirror Mirror Ball, featuring Witching Hour

Your chance to dress up and be fabulous at EightSquaredCon, assuming that you don't mind missing the Hugo Shortlist Announcement and Spokane 2015 party. The ball is at 8pm in Main.

Hugo Nominees

Your chance to see who is going to potentially win a Hugo, assuming you don't mind missing the Mirror Mirror Ball and Spokane 2015 party. Come and see what we'll argue about until LoneStarCon 3! The nominees will be announced in Rowan at 8pm.

Spokane 2015 party

Your chance to mingle and drink with those involved with the Spokane in 2015 Worldcon bid, assuming you don't mind missing, etc. This will be part of the site selection at the 2013 Worldcon, LoneStarCon 3, so it's your last chance to make your mind up! 8pm in the conservatory.

Restaurant Write-ups

Eleven of us went to **Omar Khan's** (near the Jurys Inn) last night. Fantastic food, quick service and dealt well with us being a large group. Especially good was the garlic naan bread, although it was the largest naan I've seen! 30 Little Horton Lane, BD5 0AL; www.omarkhans.co.uk.

Emily January

We headed to **Shalamar** (fifteen minutes from the Cedar Court) via a rather circuitous route. Fortunately, it was well worth the trip! The staff were extremely helpful and accomodating and even made a paneer saag for us despite it not being on the menu. It's worth noting that despite an advertised 4:30pm opening time, I spoke to one fan who got there at around 6pm and found it shut; head over in the evening! Although the Cedar Court is in their delivery zone... 862 Manchester Road, BD5 8DJ.

John Coxon

Mobile Weaponry

We have discovered, via a careful reading of the EightSquaredCon weapons policy, that all smartphones are banned as they emit light and sound. Fans are advised that if they're seen using iPhones in the convention area, they will need to report to the con office to have them peacebonded.

Volunteers Needed!

We still need volunteers for Sunday and Monday in lots of areas of the con. Green Room says 'why not try working in Green Room?' Tech says 'we always need more people in tech'. You get the idea. We particularly want people to write us stories, bring us or send us photos, and give us news.

Almost OAPs

Andrew Patton was 64 in January. Dave Lally will be 64 in December. Linda Stratman is 64, but only until 4 April, when she will be 65.

Fannish Yog's Law

A fannish modification of Yog's Law: the flow of money should always be towards the author but the flow of beer should always be towards the fan. We approve!

Hot Off The Presses

We hear from registration that there have been 84 walk-ins so far. Full membership details to follow.

Fan Funds

The fan funds are having an auction tomorrow night at 9pm. If you have anything you'd like to see go to a good home, please bring it along and we'll auction it. If you'd like to give the stuff we're auctioning a good home, that's also very helpful. Last time, Alison Scott wore a Dalek voice-changing helmet—don't miss out on this year's hijinks.

If you'd like to vote for either Theresa Derwin or Jim Mowatt in this year's TAFF race, please see Claire and Mark on the Cold Tonnage table in the Dealers' Room or catch me in the bar.

John Coxon

Paging Mike Cule

Could you please go to hotel reception because something of yours has been handed in.

Summer Is Icumen In

Lhude sing cuccu!
Snowe falleth from skye
Lamb freezeth in byre
Clokkes forward go thys nicht
Bollucs printeth nywslettyre

Print bollucs nu. Print bollucs
Print bollucs. Print bollucs nu.

Fanfic Workshop

The Fanfic Slash Fiction Workshop produced a startling array of crossover fiction, including (but not limited to) *Heroes/House*, *Star Trek/The Simpsons*, *Sanctuary/Doctor Who/Warehouse 13* and *Captain Scarlet/Are You Being Served?* (yes, really!). [They both featured Captain Peacock, right? – Alison] The star of the show, however, was Arthur Chappell's complete Dexter/Life on Mars story, which received a well-deserved round of applause.

Kate Keen

Mobile Vexation

Please can you turn off your mobile phones, tablets and other interactive devices in programme items, particularly Guest of Honour items.

Shamrokon Raffle

Win a stay in the four star convention hotel for Shamrokon in Dublin, Ireland. Raffle tickets cost £10 on the Shamrokon desk. Three raffle tickets cost £20. Hopefully this is for the actual Eurocon weekend.

Tantalising Texts

"I fell asleep in the fan lounge. I lounged too far."

Andrew Hogg

Beeblebears' Picnic

A select gathering of Beeblebears met today in the Foyer Bar. After introductions, they participated in their usual drinking games and it was discovered that yellow Beeblebears do not enjoy yellow beers! A few late arrivals straight from the dealers rooms were swiftly initiated in the rites of Beeblebears and all enjoyed the Haribo provided.



Beeblebears frolicking at their picnic, courtesy of Richard S

Manticore showed off his fine breastplate while his Gothic plate mail was still being fitted by the armourer. The Bear That Shall Not Be Named arrived, still wearing last year's costume bearing the stains of past festivities.

Dan Smithers

Editor Off To The Bar

I am being told off by Alison Scott for threatening to retreat to the bar instead of proofreading. Apparently, this isn't in the spirit. Who knew? Fortunately she hit me with a big enough stick.

This issue was produced by John Coxon, with help from Alison Scott, Flick and Jan van't Ent. Masthead by Sue Mason. John compensates for his lack of an awesome dongle by having a smartphone instead. It vibrates. We're following #Eastercon and #8SqCon on Twitter and Flickr. We would like to apologise for the previous issue.

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Site Non-Selection

There were no bids for the 2015 Eastercon, so both 2015 and 2016 will be voted on at next year's Eastercon, Satellite 4, in Glasgow. Assuming that anyone volunteers. Please come to the programme item about the future of Eastercon at 1pm on Monday in the Boardroom.

Adult Art Prizes

1. Fangorn: *The Angel Jordan*
2. Jackie Burns: *Astronaut In A Pool Of Light*
3. SMS: *Dog: Track Things (If I had a dog... we could track things)*

Kids' Art Prizes

1. Nathaniel Smithers: *Pipe Cleaner Zombie Defender* (Best 3D)
2. Cuil: *Caltorp* (Best Comic)
3. Amrit Singh: *Phoenix And Dragon* (Best Line Work) and Matthew Smithers: *Chicken In Barn* (Best Scene)

Honorable mentions:

- Libby Cooper: *Easter Chick* (Best Use of Colour)
- Evelyn Fisher/Biggins: *Pretty Flowers* (Most Decorative)
- Jonathan Smithers: *Falp* (Best Reproduction)
- Katheryn Meenan: *8 Squared* (Best Design)

Have You Seen This Panda?

A 6" tall panda has escaped into the wilds of the con: if you find it, please feed it bamboo and take it back to Ops.



Healthy Exercise

Tai Chi is not all about gentle movement and breathing. It forms the basis of a martial art, used by Jane Yellowrock in a series of novels by Faith Hunter, the latest of which, *Blood Trade* is released by Roc on 2 April. In addition to the normal breathing exercises in the Tai Chi session on Monday at 9am in Rowan, Fiona Anderson will be demonstrating some of Jane's vampire-busting moves.

Today's Programme Plugs

At 2pm in Main, Edward James will be interviewed by Kari Sperring. At 3:30pm in Main, Walter Jon Williams will be interviewed by Roz Kaveney.

The BSFA Awards will be announced at 7pm in Main, followed by an update from the Loncon 3 committee.

The Fan Fund Auction will be at 9pm in Hawthorn; please come along and buy a superannuated newsletter editor.

cDave's Fast Talk on Monday will be 'Comics Are Still For Children!'

More Cons!

Remember that Jo Walton is the GoH at Novacon 43, in the Park Inn Hotel Nottingham from 8 to 10 November 2013.

The Bad Death Awards

The winner of the Bad Death award, by general acclaim of the audience, was Lazarus Reactor Fission Sequence by Tom Francis from the *This Is How You Die* anthology (note: not the *Machine Of Death* as announced in the item—this is the sequel), in which Victoria the tapir is dropped onto a prisoner from a height of 30 meters with hilarious consequences.

Time Stealers

Satellite 4 would like to *guarantee* that we will not steal an hour of your life. We can't give you back the one you lost, but we won't be taking any more.
Dyllanne

Art Show Admin

Could A Payton, membership number 0177, go back to the art show and get a bidder number please.

Teenage Gamers on Speed

Ever wanted to help run a space station? Badly? Ever wanted to do so from almost any Windows machine? Then Space Station 13 may be for you! Featuring a large variety of hilarious screwups and messups, in which players will be antagonists, traitors, aliens, cultists or central command. Think of it as similar to the Paranoia RPG, but a video game in space!

Check out Baystation 12 on the BYOND platform. You can visit a Facebook group to find out more by heading to <http://on.fb.me/16oju3B>. There are also more instructions available at <http://bit.ly/16ojHUr>. Alternatively, email me at jdwalker08@googlemail.com.

James Walker

Better Than Euros

The Dealers' Room would like you to know that Groats are acceptable currency for all debts, public and private.



No, Sue, the dealers are accepting groats...

Hugo Nominations

A total of 1,343 valid nomination forms (1,329 online and 14 paper) were received, with 468 originating from Chicon 7, 716 from LoneStarCon 3 and 159 from Loncon 3.

Best Novel

- 2312 by Kim Stanley Robinson
- *Blackout* by Mira Grant
- *Captain Vorpatril's Alliance* by Lois McMaster Bujold
- *Redshirts: A Novel with Three Codas* by John Scalzi
- *Throne of the Crescent Moon* by Saladin Ahmed

Best Novella

- *After the Fall, Before the Fall, During the Fall* by Nancy Kress
- *The Emperor's Soul* by Brandon Sanderson
- *On a Red Station, Drifting* by Aliette de Bodard
- *San Diego 2014: The Last Stand of the California Browncoats* by Mira Grant
- "The Stars Do Not Lie" by Jay Lake

Best Novelette

- "The Boy Who Cast No Shadow" by Thomas Olde Heuvelt
- "Fade To White" by Catherynne M. Valente
- "The Girl-Thing Who Went Out for Sushi" by Pat Cadigan
- "In Sea-Salt Tears" by Seanan McGuire
- "Rat-Catcher" by Seanan McGuire

Best Short Story

- "Immersion" by Aliette de Bodard
 - "Mantis Wives" by Kij Johnson
 - "Mono no Aware" by Ken Liu
- Note: category has 3 nominees due to a 5% requirement under Section 3.8.5 of the WSFS constitution.

Best Related Work

- *The Cambridge Companion to Fantasy Literature* Edited by Edward James & Farah Mendlesohn
- *Chicks Dig Comics: A Celebration of Comic Books by the Women Who Love Them* Edited by Lynne M. Thomas & Sigrid Ellis
- *Chicks Unravel Time: Women Journey Through Every Season of Doctor Who* Edited by Deborah Stanish & L.M. Myles
- *I Have an Idea for a Book... The Bibliography of Martin H. Greenberg* Compiled by Martin H. Greenberg, edited by John Helfers
- *Writing Excuses Season Seven* by Brandon Sanderson, Dan Wells, Mary Robinette Kowal, Howard Tayler and Jordan Sanderson

Best Graphic Story

- *Grandville Bête Noire* written and illustrated by Bryan Talbot

- *Locke & Key Volume 5: Clockworks* written by Joe Hill, illustrated by Gabriel Rodriguez
- *Saga, Volume One* written by Brian K. Vaughn, illustrated by Fiona Staples
- *Schlock Mercenary: Random Access Memorabilia* by Howard Tayler, colors by Travis Walton
- *Saucer Country, Volume 1: Run* written by Paul Cornell, illustrated by Ryan Kelly, Jimmy Broxton and Goran Sudžuka

Best Dramatic Presentation (Long Form)

- *The Avengers* Screenplay & Directed by Joss Whedon
- *The Cabin in the Woods* Screenplay by Drew Goddard & Joss Whedon; Directed by Drew Goddard
- *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* Screenplay by Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, Peter Jackson and Guillermo del Toro, Directed by Peter Jackson
- *The Hunger Games* Screenplay by Gary Ross & Suzanne Collins, Directed by Gary Ross
- *Looper* Screenplay and Directed by Rian Johnson

Best Dramatic Presentation (Short Form)

- *Doctor Who: "The Angels Take Manhattan"* Written by Steven Moffat, Directed by Nick Hurran
- *Doctor Who: "Asylum of the Daleks"* Written by Steven Moffat; Directed by Nick Hurran
- *Doctor Who: "The Snowmen"* Written by Steven Moffat, Directed by Saul Metzstein
- *Fringe: "Letters of Transit"* Written by J.J. Abrams, Alex Kurtzman, Roberto Orci, Akiva Goldsman, J.H. Wyman, Jeff Pinkner. Directed by Joe Chappelle
- *Game of Thrones: "Blackwater"* Written by George R.R. Martin, Directed by Neil Marshall. Created by David Benioff and D.B. Weiss

Best Editor (Short Form)

- John Joseph Adams
- Neil Clarke
- Stanley Schmidt
- Jonathan Strahan
- Sheila Williams

Best Editor (Long Form)

- Lou Anders
- Sheila Gilbert
- Liz Gorinsky
- Patrick Nielsen Hayden
- Toni Weiskopf

Best Professional Artist

- Vincent Chong
- Julie Dillon
- Dan Dos Santos
- Chris McGrath
- John Picacio

Best Semiprozine

- *Apex Magazine* edited by Lynne M. Thomas, Jason Sizemore and Michael Damian Thomas
- *Beneath Ceaseless Skies* edited by Scott H. Andrews
- *Clarkesworld* edited by Neil Clarke, Jason Heller, Sean Wallace and Kate Baker
- *Lightspeed* edited by John Joseph Adams and Stefan Rudnicki
- *Strange Horizons* edited by Niall Harrison, Jed Hartman, Brit Mandelo, An Owomoyela, Julia Rios, Abigail Nussbaum, Sonya Taaffe, Dave Nagdeman and Rebecca Cross

Best Fanzine

- *Banana Wings* edited by Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer
- *The Drink Tank* edited by Chris Garcia and James Bacon
- *Elitist Book Reviews* edited by Steven Diamond
- *Journey Planet* edited by James Bacon, Chris Garcia, Emma J. King, Helen J. Montgomery and Pete Young
- *SF Signal* edited by John DeNardo, JP Frantz, and Patrick Hester

Best Fancast

- *The Coode Street Podcast*, Jonathan Strahan and Gary K. Wolfe
- *Galactic Suburbia Podcast*, Alisa Krasnostein, Alexandra Pierce, Tansy Rayner Roberts (Presenters) and Andrew Finch (Producer)
- *SF Signal Podcast*, Patrick Hester, John DeNardo, and JP Frantz
- *SF Squeecast*, Elizabeth Bear, Paul Cornell, Seanan McGuire, Lynne M. Thomas, Catherynne M. Valente (Presenters) and David McHone-Chase (Technical Producer)
- *StarShipSofa*, Tony C. Smith

Best Fan Writer

- James Bacon
- Christopher J Garcia
- Mark Oshiro
- Tansy Rayner Roberts
- Steven H Silver

Best Fan Artist

- Galen Dara
- Brad W. Foster
- Spring Schoenhuth
- Maurine Starkey
- Steve Stiles

John W. Campbell Award (NaH)

Award for the best new professional science fiction or fantasy writer of 2011 or 2012, sponsored by Dell Magazines.

- Zen Cho *
- Max Gladstone
- Mur Lafferty *
- Stina Leicht *
- Chuck Wendig *

* Finalists in their 2nd year of eligibility.

This issue was produced by Flick, with help from Alison Scott, Mike Scott and Jan van't Ent. Art by Sue Mason.

We're following #Eastercon and #8SqCon on Twitter and Flickr. We would like to apologise for the previous issue, particularly the [REDACTED], the other [REDACTED], that it contained [REDACTED], and that some people [REDACTED].

FOUR CUBED

The Newsletter of EightSquaredCon, the 2013 Eastercon Issue 5: Sun pm
Email: newsletter@eightsquaredcon.org Twitter: #Eastercon or 8SqCon



Dress Up In Front Of Thousands

If you had fun dressing up last night at the Mirror Mirror Ball, think about costuming or cosplay at Loncon3. It's in London in August 2014, and you can find out more from the Loncon3 desk in the foyer outside Main Programme.

You've got about sixteen months to plan and make the most fabulous Masquerade or Hall Costume ever.

Giulia de Cesare

Check Your Bollocks

Those who remember little Kenneth Bell (eg as a 7-year-old fool at Follycon) might be interested in his latest venture. Climbing the tech scaffold gave him a taste for adventure—this year he's running 150 miles across the desert in the Marathon des Sables to see the full extent of his madness... Find him at saharakenny.com and help him raise money for Orchid.

Chris Bell

Programme Plugs

Remember that the BSFA awards will be announced tonight at 7pm, to be followed by a presentation from the Loncon3 committee.

There will be a Guest of Honour signing at 9pm in the Boardroom.

Quiz Call

Participants in The Weakest Hyperlink should go to the Green Room at 11:45am on Monday.

Raving Toddlers

Some of the littlest people at the convention have been having a great time thanks to Tinies Creche Yorkshire. If you're one of their parents, consider leaving a testimonial at tiniescreche.com.

My God It's Full of Restaurant Reviews!

The Redemption committee tried Bharat Indian restaurant on Saturday evening, and a very nice meal we had too. Bharat seats about 60 people and is at 502 Great Horton Road (BD7 3HR). The staff were friendly and efficient and the food was excellent, the meat tawa was particularly well received, the chicken korma was very good and the lamb karai was tender and flavourful. The naans were notably nice. We ended up paying about £28 per head including drinks and a generous tip.

If you want to know more, pop down to the Redemption desk and we will tell you as you buy your membership for Redemption 15.

Steve Rogerson

For dinner we went to the Kerala Cafe, 139-141 Bradford Road. This unassuming and rather bare little café deserves its fantastic ratings on Tripadvisor. The food had a very specific Kerala feel. We ordered the fish moley, masala dhosa and Kerala chicken curry, all of which were great. They have no alcohol license but we drank their delicious mango lahse and at ten pounds a head it was a bargain.

Nigel Fisher & family

Beer! Beer! Beer!

We are blessed with several beers at the convention which all complement each other rather well. There are some light drinkable little numbers such as the Clark's Traditional and the Clark's Blonde. Both of them taste very blonde indeed and slide down the throat with much ease. These beers are nice but oftentimes nice isn't enough and some actual flavour is required. A beer with character,

attitude and taste. A beer that you wouldn't want to take home to meet your mother (unless she was a mean, ass-kicking biker woman). Ruby Mild and the Chocolate Stout will fulfil these requirements. Ruby Mild has a strong dark taste with bags of character and the Chocolate stout takes this and makes it just a tad sweeter. Mine's a Ruby Mild please *Jim looks hopeful as he peers into an empty bottle.*

Jim Mowatt (for taff)

Splashdown!

John Stewart has found a heat shield and achieved re-entry to the convention.

Random Plug #2134:

Creative Care CIC is a brand new community interest company which aims to raise funds to research and provide support for writers and artists with disabilities and caring responsibilities. To find out more contact theresa.derwin@yahoo.co.uk or via www.fringeworks.co.uk

Theresa Derwin (for taff)

Lifts

Larry van der Putte is looking for a lift to the Reading / Newbury area on Tuesday 2 April, if anyone can help.

Splashdown! #2

The pool is opening at 8am tomorrow morning! Yippee! Come with your swim things and join Lizzit for a swim! [*Bit early for me —Ed*]

OAP Update

Mike Westhead is 64, and Kathy Westhead turns 64 in a couple of months. Linda Stratmann will be 64 for a few more days. Bbob Smith is very embarrassed to be 64 and even more embarrassed that nobody told the newsletter.

My God it's Full of Flash Fiction

Thanks to Cory Doctorow for suggesting that you might like to see the results of the flash fiction panel, who had to improvise short stories in five minutes each. These are our favourites from each of the four authors.

Murder at the Convention

"I suppose you're wondering why I've assembled you all here in the Green Room," said Robert Silverberg. "It's because one of you is guilty of a terrible crime."

"I can't help all those nominations," wailed Seanan McGuire.

"I refer," said Silverberg, "and I'm going to keep you in suspense here for a moment... and a moment more... to the crime of murder."

"It was quite a good murder, wasn't it?" said Charlie Stross. "Not that I... well, actually yes, I did it."

"...Pah," said Robert Silverberg.

Paul Cornell

Murder at the Convention

The con-chair was dead, but that was only to be expected. After all, he'd been predicting it since the first progress update.

Still, it was rather unsightly, the spectacle of a body in the main atrium. The hotel people were starting to ask questions.

NorEas'Con had been using the TeaNeck Hyatt through several incarnations—the TeaNeck Raddisson, the TeaNeck Hilton, even a brief flash when it was the TeaNeck Trump. The facilities chair knew the hotel better than any of its own facilities people and had even consulted, once, upon a particularly difficult HVAC problem. The facilities people, they trusted old Tom. Or, as his badge had it, 3TOM3. No one remembered what the 3 stood for.

The con chair was dead, and he lay sprawled in the middle of the atrium. Some wag had deposited a hall costume coupon on his chest, which was considered to be in pretty poor taste by all present. The con committee, of course, had been expecting this. After all, they'd signed off on all the progress reports.

3TOM3 had given some thought to the problem of disposing of the body. Randall was a large man, and difficult to shift, and that was before both arms and both legs had been subjected to multiple compound fractures. Carrying the con-chair now was a messy business, and there were sharp bits that protruded.

But it had to be done.

Cory Doctorow

TV in 2050

He wasn't sure. It seemed like everyone else could see ... more. The others stood around him, the strange

bobble hanging over their left eye, the hush descended over the room. They were awestruck. He just wanted to go home and have a cup of tea.

The exec had that smile on his face. It said money, and tie in deals and fame and fortune and biscuits at every meeting. If they liked it, if it took off, they'd be drinking champagne out of each other's shoes.

Bastards.

It ended. The lights were switched back on. Everyone sighed out, as if they'd been holding their breath. The only thing he'd been holding in was wind.

"So," the exec oiled at him. "What do you think?"

The boss cooed and gushed.

"Wonderful!" She looked at him.

"Tim? What do you think?"

"I..."

"It's only for a year. It won't even hurt, you won't know its there."

"But my life isn't—"

"That's sorted then. This it is people! TV 2050. We watch the books as they are written. Live!"

Bollocks, he thought. My brain doesn't have a spellchecker.

Emma Newman

Hippo Birdie

Tessa Stokes is celebrating her first birthday on Monday 1 April. Her parents missed last year's Eastercon, because she was being born at an inconvenient time, but Captain Tessa has enjoyed her first birthday and is looking forward to many more.

Snow falling slowly and the music died
In slow diminuendo. Giant flakes
As white as skulls. Echo that slowly breaks
Like waves or snowdrifts. And she sat and cried.
Icicles on her lashes, broken strings
Taut round her hands. The snow fell without sound
And sheets of music lay upon the ground
Now blank as snow. It is the silence brings
A sense of death from cold. The music loud
For one last second a cacophony
Containing ends of every symphony
In one last chord. And overhead a cloud
Dark as the end of music. And her death
Was silent and as white as frozen breath.

Roz Kaveney



"The problem with fandom is that it's full of old men."

This issue was produced by Alison Scott, with help from Jan van't Ent, Flick and various husbands. Art by Sue Mason. We're following #Eastercon and #8SqCon on Twitter and Flickr. We no longer need to apologise for the previous issue because we're no longer allowed to publish jokes. However, we would like to apologise for the **next** issue.

FOUR CUBED

The Newsletter of EightSquaredCon, the 2013 Eastercon Issue 6: Mon am
Email: newsletter@eightsquaredcon.org Twitter: #Eastercon or 8SqCon



Eastercon 2015 is go!

Fans yesterday were horrified by the lack of an Eastercon, but luckily, an emergency committee has come forward. Eastercon 2015 will be held in Stockholm and run by Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf.

In compensation, the Helsinki 2015 Worldcon will now be held in Glasgow, and run by Colin Harris and Vince Docherty.

Bridget Jones' Eastercon Programming Diary

Monday. Cups of Coffee: 9 (too many). Bars of chocolate: 3 (too few). E-mails written asking people to be on panels: 36 (far too few).

First day in new job, putting together Eastercon programme. All v exciting, new start, chance to meet people etc etc. Con chair assures me I am very important to process, and takes me to see co-worker, Nigel, responsible for youth programming. Nigel! A promising name, I think, and then I meet him, and it is suddenly not so promising. Nigel is smelly, pimply and Too Young, but to give him his due, is practically monosyllabic in my presence. I have brill idea for panels about two authors together, not just one. Will call them "Head to Head". Spend hours shuffling authors into the right pairs.

Tuesday. Ciggies 6 (so-so). E-mails written asking people to be on panels: 57. E-mails received accepting panels: 46 (lovely people). E-mails received declining panels: 18 (perfectly decent people, mustn't judge). E-mails not received despite invitations having gone out over 24 hours ago: 8 (bastards, bastards, bastards, why won't they read their e-mail?).

Elmer T Hack writes. He has a trilogy coming out about space lizards from Aldeberan IV. He wants to be on a minimum of four panels, including at least one lizard related, and to give a reading, and to be given an hour on the main programme for a "special item" that he "cannot explain in advance." Write back offering him a panel on space opera and a reading.

Many people ask about "Head to Head" panels, and want to know if panel must work out which author is better. No, I explain, we are looking for a thoughtful comparison. Nigel suggests I should call them "Cage Death Match panels" instead and I flick a ciggy butt at him.

Wednesday. Pounds lost: 3 (good: is Convention Programming key to losing weight fast?). Panellists lost: 2. One arrested on vagrancy charge, the other now Flat-Earther and therefore not willing to talk about near-earth asteroids any more.

Elmer T Hack writes back. He knows of at least fifteen lizard owners going to the convention and six professional herpetologists and urges me to properly support lizard fandom. Does not explain special item. I pass him over to Nigel.

Whizz for Eastercons

Nigel Molesworth

Tune in next week when our hero NIGEL blow up entire lizard planet and their leader ELMER.
Nyooooouuuwww!

Michael Abbott

Good Advice

We asked Kari whether there was anything she thought the convention membership needed to know. "Don't Vote Tory", she replied.

Monday Programme Changes

9am George RR Martin is popping into the con with advance copies of *The Winds of Winter* for 20 lucky attendees.

10am Joss Whedon previews *Buffy: The Next Generation*.

10am Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett read from the forthcoming sequel to *Good Omens*. [Ed: We'll definitely get this issue out late Sunday night, won't we? It would be a shame if people didn't know about these.]

Best Books of 2012

Sandra Unerman's suggestions:

- *A Face Like Glass*—Frances Hardinge
- *Boneland*—Alan Garner
- *Wonders of the Invisible World*—Patricia McKillip

David Hebblethwaite's suggestions:

- *Redemption in Indigo*—Karen Lord
- *Jack Glass*—Adam Roberts
- *Diving Belles*—Lucy Wood

Francis Knight's suggestions:

- *Blackbirds*—Chuck Wendig
- *Stray Souls*—Kate Griffin

Paul Cockburn's suggestions:

- *Intrusion*—Ken MacLeod
- *Blue Remembered Earth*—Alastair Reynolds
- *The Fractal Prince*—Hannu Rajaniemi

Audience suggestions:

- Catherynne M. Valente—*The Girl Who Fell Beneath Fairyland and Led the Revels There*
- Sally Gardner—*Maggot Moon*
- Keith Ridgeway—*Hawthorn and Child*
- Kim Stanley Robinson—2312
- Ian McDonald—*Planesrunner*
- Hugh Howie—*Wool*
- James Treadwell—*Advent*
- Warren Ellis—*Gun Machine*

Chris Hill

Fan Funds

We would like to thank everyone who came to the fan funds auction last night. We had a stonkingly good night, raising around £870. Thanks to everyone who came along and helped out etc. Mary is the best gopher in the universe.

Flick

Winter is Coming

The government has announced that British Summer time will be scrapped, as the weather is too cold for anyone to think of summer right now. Therefore the clocks will go back one hour tonight, Monday, and the UK will remain in GMT rather than BST until St Swithin's Day.

Membership numbers.

Nobody seems to know for sure, but there were 754 pre-registered members and about 80 walk-ins. Warm body count is therefore about 800.

Splashdown!

You may know that there has been a search on for a married couple to travel on the first manned Mars expedition. They'll be shut up together in a small capsule for 500 days with only minimal contact with Earth. We can exclusively announce the winning couple today. Congratulations, Cory and Charlie!

New Classics for Old Fans

These were the recommended books:

- *Power of Five*—Anthony Horowitz
- *The Name of the Star*—Maureen Johnson
- *Larklight*—Philip Reeve
- *Mortal Engines*—Philip Reeve
- *The Fault in Our Stars*—John Green
- *Timeriders*—Alex Scarrow
- *The Declaration*—Gemma Malley
- *The Hunger Games*—Suzanne Collins
- *Uglies*—Scott Westerfeld
- *The Enemy*—Charlie Higson
- *Gone*—Michael Grant
- *How I Live Now*—Meg Rosoff
- *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*—Rick Riordan
- *Rosemary and Rue (October Daye)*—Sean McGuire
- *The New Policeman*—Kate Thompson
- *Jigsaw*—Garry Kilworth
- *I, Coriander*—Sally Gardner

- *Newsflesh* series—Mira Grant
- *The Medusa Project*—Sophie McKenzie
- *Cherub* series—Robert Muchamore
- *The Stainless Steel Rat* series—Harry Harrison [*shurely shome mistake*—Ed]
- *The Perks of being a Wallflower*—Stephen Chbosky
- *Song of the Lioness*—Tamora Pierce
- *Blood Red Road*—Moira Young
- *Void Trilogy*—Peter F Hamilton
- *Soulless*—Gail Carriger
- *Varjak Paw*—S. F. Said
- *Unwind*—Neal Shusterman

Legal Clearance

Simon Bradshaw was in the Bar. Sorry. The bar. "You'll be pleased to hear," he informed me, "that I have been in touch with Charlie Stross on the other side of the planet, and he has given his consent to appear in a spoof article in the newsletter."

Eastercon 2015 (really)

Rumour has it that a fledgling bid committee has been formed, headed up by me. Maybe I'm really too sick to be here, but details will be released as we get a better picture of what a possible Eastercon 2015 might look like.

Judi Hodgkin

I Know What I Like

Our toddler's review of the art show: "black and white cats, moons, and stars."

Zandy Hemsley

[Ed note — looks like you've got your art show lead, Judi]

2013 Science Fiction Foundation Conference

At the end of June, the SFF organises a three day academic conference. The conference is entitled *Swords, Sorcery, Sandals and Space: The Fantastika and the Classical World*. The theme is the interaction between the worlds of Greece and Rome, and the worlds of science fiction and fantasy. The plenary speakers are: SFF novelist and former Classicist Catherynne M. Valente, one of the decade's rising stars; Nick Lowe of Royal Holloway, University of London, Reader in Greek Literature but better known to the sf community as Interzone's long-

running movie critic; and Professor Edith Hall of King's College, London, one of the UK's leading Classical scholars, with a particular interest in reception, who has written on the use of the Greek hero Odysseus in science fiction. The conference takes place at the Foresight Centre in Liverpool, from 29th June to 1st July. For further information, see the conference blog: swordssorcerysandalspace.wordpress.com.

Tony Keen

Hotel Boobs #1

Bill Burns was perusing the useful hotel information. "Our Four Season Brassiere is in our main hotel restaurant... our Brassiere has a no smoking policy... our Brassiere is very popular." We bet it is.

Truth in Advertising

"We take great care to satisfy your slightest expectations"—the Campanile

Cory Doctorow

Old Classics for New Fans

- *Codes of Conduct of Gor*—John Norman
- *Flying Ponies in Space*—Anne McCaffrey
- *Telepathic Cats in Space*—David Weber
- *Flying Ponies at Sea*—Naomi Novik
- *My 50 Best Royalty Checks*—Piers Anthony
- *Sauron's Laundry List*—Christopher Tolkien
- *Miles's Laundry List*—Lois McMaster Bujold
- *Vlad's Laundry List*—Steven Brust [*That one actually exists*—Ed]
- *Sharecroppers of Dune*—Frank & Brian Herbert

Beer! Beer! Beer!

It's Monday morning and the bar has:

- ½ a barrel of Traditional
- 5½ barrels of Blonde
- plenty of bottles.

Bottoms Up! [*Are we allowed to say 'bottoms'?*—Ed]

Notable Quotes:

If the world were ending in two months Curry's would still try to sell you an extended warranty.

Paul McAuley

This issue was produced by guest editor Avril Fish, with help from the usual suspects. Art by Sue Mason.

We're following #Eastercon and #8SqCon on Twitter and Flickr. Never explain, never apologise. Some of the stories in this newsletter are true.